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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/902,253	07/09/2001	Michelle Zhao	03226.534001;P6053	8276
7590	07/12/2005		EXAMINER	
Jonathan P Osha OSHA & MAY LLP 1221 McKinney Street Suite 2800 Houston, TX 77010			UNGAR, DANIEL M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2132	
DATE MAILED: 07/12/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/902,253	ZHAO, MICHELLE	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Daniel M. Ungar	2132	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 March 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-5,7-12 and 14-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-5,7-12 and 14-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED OFFICE ACTION

1. Claims 1-31 have been examined. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

SPECIFICATION

2. The corrected specification is accepted, and the previous objection is withdrawn.

RESPONSE TO ARGUMENTS

3. Applicant argues that only a single file is created and manipulated, and thus Perlman does not teach merging a plurality of delta CRLs. Examiner respectfully disagrees. Perlman states, "the RS provides incremental CRLs in successive replies," showing multiple incremental (delta) CRLs, and Applicant cites this recitation for the next argument. Applicant argues that appending delta CRLs successively and continually is not the same as merging delta CRLs. Examiner must respectfully disagree as this interpretation and distinction is not supported by the claim language.

4. With regard to the rejection of claim 17, currently amended to contain the limitations of claim 18, Applicant argues that while Perlman discloses sequentially assigned numbers for the certificates in the CRL, he does not disclose sequentially assigned numbers for the CRLs themselves. Applicant argues that the presence of a timestamp precludes a sequentially assigned number. Examiner respectfully disagrees. While this distinction between the CRL and the contents of the CRL is noted, Perlman still discloses a sequentially assigned number to the CRL in the form of a timestamp, which is itself an inherently sequential number.

CLAIM REJECTIONS - 35 U.S.C. 102

5. Claims 1-5, 7-12, and 14-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Perlman, U.S. Patent Number 5,687,235.

6. Regarding claim 1, Perlman discloses a method of creating a digital CRL comprising determining a latest owned CRL stored by a CRL recipient (see column 8, lines 61-64); creating

an incremental CRL (delta CRL) wherein status of at least one inactive criterion has changed since the latest owned CRL (see column 8, line 56 - column 9, line 8); and sending the delta CRL to the CRL recipient, wherein creating the delta CRL comprises merging data from a plurality of delta CRLs spanning from the latest owned CRL to a current CRL (see column 8, line 56 - column 9, line 8; column 9, lines 18-32).

7. Regarding claim 2, Perlman discloses the request to include an indication of the latest owned CRL, determined by examining the request (see column 8, line 56 - column 9, line 8).

8. Regarding claim 9, Perlman discloses a method of creating a digital CRL comprising receiving a request for a CRL, the request including an indication of a latest owned CRL (see column 8, lines 61-64); creating an incremental CRL (delta CRL) wherein status of at least one inactive criterion has changed since the latest owned CRL (see column 8, line 56 - column 9, line 8); and sending the delta CRL to the CRL recipient, wherein creating the delta CRL comprises merging data from a plurality of delta CRLs spanning from the latest owned CRL to a current CRL (see column 8, line 56 - column 9, line 8; column 9, lines 18-32).

9. With regard to claims 3 and 10, Perlman discloses the CRLs in his method to be consistent with X.509, which presents the ASN.1 format (see column 2, lines 59-62; ITU-T Recommendation X.509).

10. With regard to claims 4 and 11, Perlman discloses comparing entries in the latest owned CRL with a current CRL (see column 8, line 56 - column 9, line 8).

11. With regard to claims 5 and 12, Perlman discloses querying a database for entries spanning the latest owned CRL and a current CRL (see column 8, line 56 - column 9, line 8; column 6, lines 22-29, "RS accesses the CRL storage facility to retrieve selected revoked certificate numbers [...] based on parameters provided by that principal"; claims 1 and 11).

12. Regarding claims 7 and 14, Perlman discloses applying a digital signature (see column 6, lines 54-56; claim 10).

13. Regarding claims 8 and 15, Perlman discloses creating a CRL via a programmed processor with instructions from an electronic storage medium (see column 5, lines 13-30 and lines 42-49).

14. With regard to claim 16, Perlman discloses sending the CRL as a reply over an electronic communication medium (see column 3, lines 29-37; abstract; claim 8).

15. With regard to claim 17, Perlman discloses a data structure stored on computer readable storage medium for a CRL (see column 5, lines 13-30) comprising a CRL identifier comprising a timestamp, i.e. a sequentially assigned number (see column 3, lines 38-48), wherein the CRL is formatted as a delta CRL (see column 8, line 56 - column 9, line 8). Regarding the limitation of a list of digital certificates representing changes to a CRL that have occurred since generation of at least two additional CRLs, Perlman cites the prior art in which multiple (at least two) CRLs are generated progressively over the course of time (see column 3, lines 10-17). Perlman then proceeds to disclose his improvement to incorporate all changes from the latest owned CRL up to the current CRL, matching the updated state suggested by the prior art (see column 9, lines 18-32). Thus it is inherent that the delta CRL disclosed by Perlman represents changes to a CRL that have occurred since generation of at least two CRLs.

CONCLUSION

16. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to

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37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

17. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel M. Ungar whose telephone number is 571.272.7960. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 - 6:00 Monday - Thursday, Alt. Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on 571.272.3799. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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